

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

1801 Panorama Drive, Office of Student Life | Bakersfield, California 93305

SENATE BODY

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

4:00 - 6:00 p.m. BCSGA Boardroom, Campus Center

Meeting Zoom link: <https://kccd-edu.zoom.us/j/87120624545>

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 4:07 pm on 09/23/26 by Vice President Jawad

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At this time, we invite those who wish to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance to please rise. Participation is voluntary. Anyone who prefers not to participate may remain seated. We recognize the Pledge of Allegiance as a unifying civic tradition and a practice commonly observed in governmental meetings across the country. Thank you for respecting the choices of others as we begin.

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. ASCERTAINMENT OF QUORUM

A majority quorum must be established to hold a bona fide meeting.

Senator Alvarado: Present

Senator Gilford: Not here- not excused

Senator Herrera: Present

Senator Ray: Present

Senator Warren: Present

5/6 members present; quorum has been established.

4. CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES

The Senate will discuss and correct minutes from previous meetings.

A. The Senate will consider corrections to the minutes from the meeting held on August 26.

- Minutes approved; no corrections put forth by the senate

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

This segment of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Senate on any matter of concern that is not stated on the agenda. A time limit of three (3) minutes per speaker and fifteen (15) minutes per topic shall be observed. The law does not permit any action to be taken, nor extended discussion of any items not on the agenda. The Senate may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed; however, for further information, please contact the BCSGA Vice President for the item of discussion to be placed on a future agenda. (Brown Act §54954.3)

A. Faith Bradham, Chair & Librarian | Library & Academic Technology

- Presentation given for a resolution to the academic senate regarding the move of counseling to the library. This move has limited the number of quiet places for students.
- There was no discussion on the impact it would have on the students before the move was made.
- The resolution with a advocate for a clear timeline for when the study spaces will be restored. Also, the resolution will push back against using the library as a swing space.
- Requested to make this resolution a joint resolution with BCSGA.

B. Wendy Cordova, BCSGA Advisor BCSGA Communication Protocols

- Presentation on effective communication within BCSGA when using teams, email, and in person communications.
- Encouraged that group chats remain profession and business oriented.
- When communicating in email, advised reflecting if the response applies to just one person or to all who is included in the email.

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- Encouraged the exchange of personal contact information among members while emphasizing appropriate communication boundaries. Personal cell phone numbers should be used for work-related communication only. Text messages should remain business-related unless an individual has given permission to communicate about personal matters.
- Pay attention to the personal stories that are shared in the BCSGA work room.

6. RECEIPT OF CORRESPONDENCE TO THE SENATE

The Senate will receive communications addressed to the Senate and refer each to the appropriate committee. The senate may make

7. Senator Gerardo Herrera, Statement of accountability and request for scheduling consideration

- Senator Herrera requested an accommodation due to work obligations that may prevent him from attending every Senate meeting.
- The Senate held a three-minute open discussion regarding concerns about maintaining quorum.
- Action: Work with the Parliamentarian to determine appropriate next steps regarding the accommodation request and quorum requirements.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE SENATE

The Vice President shall administer the oath of office to the newly elected association officers. The senate will consider the following nominations for an association office. When the senate has concluded its deliberations, the senate may approve the nomination, reject the nomination, or take no action upon the nomination. The senate will consider the names nominated to the association office. The senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under the brown act during consideration of this item. Under the brown act, the meeting may not be closed.

A. Appointment of Isabella Daisy Zepeda the position of BCSGA Senator

- Motion by Senator Warren to move 7a to move on to 7b.

Returned to 7a

- Reviewed the candidate's Letter of Intent and résumé.
- Candidate introduced herself to the Senate.
- Senators asked questions of the candidate.
- Pros & Cons Discussion: Senators noted the candidate's strong résumé and relevant experience as strengths. A scheduling concern was discussed, as the candidate is unable to arrive at Senate meetings until 5:00 p.m. due to her current class schedule. The candidate indicated that she plans to adjust her class schedule in the spring semester to ensure she can attend Senate meetings on time.
- A roll call vote was conducted.
 - Senator Alvarado: Aye
 - Senator Herrera: Aye
 - Senator Ray: Aye
 - Senator Warren: Aye

4/4 members vote in favor of the election of Isabella Daisy Zepeda for the position of BCSGA Senator at-Large.

- Motion to extend the meeting 10 minutes made by Senator Warren, second by Senator Ray.

B. Appointment of Roujeh Alzaher for the position of BCSGA Senator

- Motion by Senator Hererra to table 7b until next meeting as candidate was not present, second by Senator Warren.

9. Appointment of John Korcok for the position of BCSGA Senator

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- Reviewed the candidate's Letter of Intent and résumé.
- Candidate introduced himself to the Senate.
- Senators asked questions of the candidate.
- Pros & Cons Discussion was held.
- Roll call vote

Senator Alvarado: Aye

Senator Herrera: Aye

Senator Ray: Aye

Senator Warren: Aye

4/4 members vote in favor of the election of John Korcok for the position of BCSGA Senator at-Large.

Motion to move 8.

10. ADMINISTERING THE OATH OF OFFICE

The Parliamentarian or vice president, if absent shall administer the oath of office for all newly appointed positions or elected officers.

- Parliamentarian offers the oath of office to John Korcok for the position of BCSGA Senator at large.
- Parliamentarian offers the oath of office to Isabella Daisy Zepeda for the position of BCSGA Senator at large.

11. APPOINTMENT OF SENATORS TO BCSGA INTERNAL COMMITTEES

The Senate will recommend members to each of the BCSGA Internal Committees. Then, the Senate will appoint senators as members to the BCSGA department established by the BCSGA COBRA. The senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under the California Brown Act, of certain individuals during considerations of this item. Under the brown act, the senate may not close the meeting.

12. BCSGA Internal Committee Change

- Senator Herrera requested that his appointment to Internal Committees be considered at the same time as Senator Korcok's appointment. This will allow Senator Herrera to review the committee meeting times and ensure they align with his work schedule.

13. Appointment of Senators to BCSGA Internal Committee Changes

14. APPOINTMENT OF SENATORS TO DEPARTMENTS

The Senate will recommend members to each of the BCSGA departments. Then, the Senate will appoint senators as members to the BCSGA department established by the BCSGA COBRA. The senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under the California Brown Act, of certain individuals during considerations of this item. Under the brown act, the senate may not close the meeting.

A. BCSGA Department on Finance

- Motion to move 10a to later in the agenda by Senator Hererra, second by Senator Ray
- The upcoming Department of Finance meeting will be held on Friday, September 25, 2026, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Senators Gilmore and Alvarado currently serve on the committee.

B. BCSGA Department on Legislative Affairs

- Senator Herrera was requested to serve as an additional member of the committee. Senator Herrera accepted the appointment.

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C. BCSGA Department on Student Organization

- Two Senators are currently appointed to the committee. An additional Senator was requested to serve on the committee to help ensure quorum is met.

15. APPOINTMENT OF SENATORS TO PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEES

Pursuant to chapter 2, section 04(f) of the BCSGA COBRA, the BCSGA President shall appoint currently enrolled students and officers to serve on Bakersfield College participatory governance committees. Participatory governance committee representatives serve as the official student voice in college governance and are responsible for representing student interests, attending committee meetings, and providing both written and oral reports to the Senate in accordance with Chapter 2, Section 04(g) of the BCSGA COBRA. The senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under the California Brown Act, of certain individuals during considerations of this item. Under the brown act, the senate may not close the meeting.

A. Review and confirm BCSGA President's appointments to serve of Bakersfield College participatory governance committees

- President Mackey stated that an email containing the participatory governance committee appointments was sent and advised Senators to review it. He noted that the list will be revised as additional Senators join the Association and are appointed to participatory governance committees.
- Advisor Cordova requested that Secretary Dorsey and President Mackey collaborate to create an Excel spreadsheet containing the committee appointment information that can be updated as needed. Secretary Dorsey stated that an Excel spreadsheet is already in place and has been updated according to the appointment list provided by President Mackey.

- Motion to go back to 7c was made by Senator Herrera, Senator Ray second.

16. REPORTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The chair shall recognize any officer of the association, including the BCSGA advisor, to offer a report on official activities since the previous meeting and make any summary announcements deemed necessary for no longer than three minutes, save the advisor, who has infinite time.

A. Vice President

- Thanked everyone for their assistance during her time out of the office. Attended Drinks with the Dean, Ballot Bowl, and Pizza with the Presidents events.

B. Senators

- Senator Herrera: Nothing to report.
- Senator Warren: Continues to work on the gym initiative and plans to reach out to the Wellness Center regarding potential collaboration.
- Senator Ray: Attended two ICC meetings regarding student organizations and is working with clubs to assist them with obtaining funding.
- Senator Alvarado: Raised a concern regarding the cafeteria being closed between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., during which the doors are locked, and students are unable to enter. Noted that the cafeteria serves as a gathering space for students and expressed interest in exploring whether the doors can remain unlocked during this time.
- Senator Korcok: Nothing to report.

C. BCSGA Advisors (∞ mins.)

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- Advisor Cordova: Students interested in attending the Advocacy Academy 2026 Conference were instructed to submit a proposal to Dr. Damania, who will make the final selection. Priority will be given to students who have not yet attended a conference. Proposals are due September 24 at 10:00 a.m.
- Four students have been selected to attend a Student Leadership Conference on October 17 with Advisor Cordova.
- Bakersfield College will host the Leading into Possibilities Student Leadership Conference on October 21 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Students who attend at least two sessions will receive a certificate of achievement. Marketing for the conference will begin on October 1. Zoom participation options will also be explored.
- The student organization approval process is nearing completion. Beginning September 28, student organizations should expect to receive email confirmation indicating either that they are approved or that they need to follow up with the Office of Student Life. Some organizations may need to update their officers.
- Homecoming Kickoff will take place on October 17. Spirit Week begins October 12, with Musical Genres as the theme.
- Senators were reminded to use the BCSGA student workspace during their scheduled office hours only. This is intended to minimize noise and distractions and ensure that students who are on the clock have adequate workspace and access to computers to complete their responsibilities.

17. DIRECT REPORT OF THE SENATE INTERNAL COMMITTEES

The Chair shall recognize the chairperson of each standing committee and then each special committee to report for no longer than five minutes on the committee's activities since the previous meeting

- A. Report from Chairperson of Academic Affairs Committee, Senator Gilford
- Motion to table 13a to the next meeting as Senator Gilford is not present by Senator Ray, second by Senator Warren
- B. Report from Chairperson of Advancement Committee, Senator Alvarado
- One Senator is needed to serve on this committee.

18. REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The Chair shall recognize the Executive Officers and Departments to report for no longer than three minutes on the activities since the previous meeting.

- A. Office of the President
- Senators were encouraged to reach out to fellow Senators and refer to ELOS for information regarding how to attend participatory governance committee meetings.
- B. Department of Legislative Affairs
- Encouraged increased participation in Ballot Bowl. Noted that the rural campuses have responded positively to SGA's presence and that additional events will be scheduled at the rural campuses. Expressed interest in adding rural campus engagement opportunities to COBRA to encourage greater Senator participation at these locations.
- C. Department of Finance
- Reported that the SOF Grant Workshop was successfully held and went very well. Thanked Secretary Dorsey and Professor Woldridge for their presentations.

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- Announced that a photo will be taken for the Budget Committee and requested that members wear professional attire to the next meeting.
- The next Department of Finance Committee meeting will be held Friday, September 25, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Senators Gilford and Alvarado serve on the committee.

D. Department of Student Organizations

- Club Rush is currently in development, with additional details to be provided upon approval. Continuing to work on confirming student organizations and updating the Student Organizations section of the website.

E. Parliamentarian

A. Report on Accountability of Membership

- Reviewed Chapter 3 of COBRA regarding membership accountability. All paid officers are required to complete the appropriate form when missing scheduled time. Unpaid officers are also required to complete a form when missing office hours or participatory governance committee meetings.
- Reviewed the COBRA point system and the process for tracking points. Moving forward, the Parliamentarian and Secretary will be responsible for tracking points.
- Further clarification is needed regarding what constitutes an “Association meeting” for accountability purposes.
- QR codes will be posted above the computers for Senators and officers to sign in and out for their scheduled office hours. This process will serve as an accountability measure to document attendance and completion of required office hours.
- Advisor Cordova requested that this information be summarized and communicated by email. The updated accountability and tracking process will begin Monday, September 28, as a fresh start for all members.

F. KCCD Student Trustee

- Expressed a desire to send more BC students to leadership events, noting that some colleges with smaller student populations send more students to conferences. Emphasized that BC is actively investing in and training student leaders.
- Asked the Senate to consider how BCSGA can increase student participation in leadership opportunities. Noted that 27 students applied to attend the Student Leadership Conference on October 17, while only four students are currently able to attend, demonstrating student interest in these opportunities. Senators were encouraged to reflect on ways to expand access to future leadership conferences and events.
- Emphasized the need for consistent communication and information sharing across all BC campuses. Senators were encouraged to increase engagement at the rural campuses to strengthen student representation and ensure rural campus students feel represented by BCSGA.
- Met with Marketing regarding updates to the committee photos on the website. Plans are underway to replace outdated photos so the website accurately reflects the staff and students currently serving on each committee.

Ray motion, warren second

19. NEW BUSINESS

Items listed have not already been discussed and thus are considered for senate consideration.

Discussion: California Secretary of State Students Vote Project Ballot Bowl

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- Developing a voting engagement plan and will collaborate with the Campus Life Program Board to coordinate tabling alongside Homecoming activities.
- Motion to move to 10a by Senator Ray, second by Senator Warren

20. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The chair shall recognize, in turn, BCSGA officers requesting the floor for a period not to exceed one minute.

- The Parliamentarian will make the required forms available as soon as possible.
- President Mackey encouraged everyone to register to vote.

21. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting Adjourned at 6:09 on September 24, 2026 by vice president Jawad.